

*****March 30, 2020*****

The Signal Mountain Town Council held a special electronic meeting on Monday, March 30, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. Those present were:

Those present were: Mayor Dan Landrum
Vice Mayor Amy Speak
Councilmember Cheryl Graham
Councilmember Bill Lusk
Councilmember Susannah Murdock

Also present were: Town Manager Boyd Veal
Town Attorney Harry Cash
Finance Director/Town Recorder Carol White

Mayor Landrum led the pledge of allegiance. A moment of silence was observed.

Statement of Protocol for Electronic Meetings

Mayor Landrum read a set of procedures from the Tennessee Comptroller's Office regarding holding electronic meetings (copy attached). He asked that considerations on how to have resident participation during electronic meetings be added to the discussion items. Town Manager, Boyd Veal, stated that the electronic meetings are necessary to safeguard Council and staff during the Covid-19 emergency.

Manager's Report

Mr. Veal explained that the current operations are proceeding as outlined at the previous Council meeting. All departments are keeping staffing low. He said he continues to seek ways to improve operations and do a better job of service delivery while being safe.

Mr. Veal said he had met with Public Works Director, Loretta Hopper, and developed a plan to open the Transfer Station. Mr. Veal said that the facility will be open to residents on the same schedule as their regular garbage pick-up schedule. This means, that if a resident has a Wednesday garbage pick-up, they may use the Transfer Station on Wednesday. He said that only household trash, brush and scrap metal will be accepted. Mr. Veal said that non-residents with a card can use the Transfer Station on Fridays.

Mr. Veal said he is investigating a safe method of opening the Recycle Center, but that there is currently no means for that to occur safely.

Mayor Landrum expressed concern over the number of people using the Town's parks and asked if a Police Officer is assigned to monitor Signal Point and another at Rainbow Lake would COVID-19 emergency funding pay for the overtime. Mr. Veal said he will check into that.

Town Attorney, Harry Cash, read extensively to the Council the recently issued Executive Order No. 21 and Executive Order No. 22 from Governor Lee (copies attached). Council held extensive discussion as to which Town functions and services are considered essential. All agreed that these current guidelines mean that the Town parks may remain open provided all recommended safety guidelines are met. The Council expressed concern with the heavy crowds on the trail systems.

The Council discussed having residents submit topics for discussion in advance of future scheduled electronic meetings.

Discussion

1. Review of Continuity of Service Plan for Critical Services. Council agreed that this item had already been addressed in the Manager's Report.
2. Review of Protocols for Nonessential Services. Council agreed that the Recycling Center is not an essential service, especially since the Center does not allow for social distancing. The Council agreed that the Town does not want to put the Recycle Center employee and residents at risk.
3. Guidance to Residents, Business and Visitors. Mayor Landrum said that this has been addressed by Governor Lee's Executive Orders.

Resolutions

1. "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE REGIONAL MAYORS COUNCIL, COVID-19 RESPONSE PLEDGE FOR THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN, TENNESSEE."

Mayor Landrum read the Regional Mayors Council Covid-19 Response Pledge (copy attached).

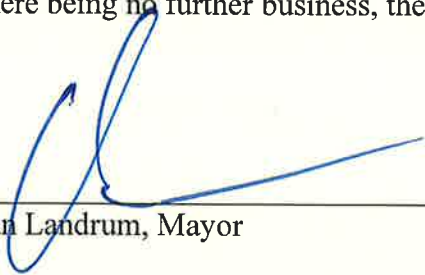
Councilmember Murdock made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Graham seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, with all Councilmembers present voting in favor of approving the Resolution.

Other Business


Council held discussions regarding placing signs at the parks and trails of the Town. Mr. Veal explained that signs for Signal Point and Rainbow Lake had already been ordered.

Council agreed to keep the standard meeting schedule.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.



Dan Landrum, Mayor



Recorder